

Docket No. UCIP380
US App. No. 10/643,112

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Szupillo et al. (US 4,180,723). Claims 1-3 were further rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Sako et al. (US 4,156,127).

Applicant has amended claim 1 and canceled claim 3. No new matter adds through the amendments. For the reasons discussed below, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Szupillo et al. (US 4,180,723).

Claims 1-3 were further rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Sako et al. (US 4,156,127).

The amended claim 1 reads:

A liquid heating device comprising a heater, said heater having an inlet for liquid to flow in therethrough and an outlet for boiled or heated liquid or vapor to flow out therethrough, said heater having an insulating tube made of quartz and a separate electric heating membrane covering an outer surface of the insulating tube, a front end and a rear end of said heating membrane being respectively clamped by a tube clamp, said tube clamps respectively connected with a conductive wire, said heater quickly generating high temperature by flowing electricity in said electric heating membrane between its front end and its rear end when said conductive wires are electrified by a control circuit, said heater making the liquid inside heated or boiled or vaporized quickly.

Szupillo fails to teach or suggest an insulating tube made of quartz and a separate electric heating membrane substantially covering an entire outer surface of the insulating tube. Szupillo teaches a contact applied to a carbon-containing glass tube or rod. The electrically conductive carbon phase is formed by impregnating a porous glass body with one or more ingredients which can subsequently decomposed to carbon. Col. 1, lines 11-16. The contact of Szupillo comprises a soft, glass-adherent metal which is deposited on the glass in contact with the carbon phase. Col. 2, lines 37-42. It is clear that the glass tube 10 and the conductive carbon-containing phase therein are not separated, but formed integrally.

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For at least the reasons discussed above, Szupillo cannot anticipate claims 1 and 3.

Sako fails to teach or suggest an insulating tube made of quartz. Sako teaches a heating tube including an elongated tubular inner layer of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and an elongated tubular outer conductive layer of a carbon filled composition of PTFE surrounding the inner layer. Col. 1, lines 63-66. Clearly, a PTFE tube is quite different from a quartz tube.

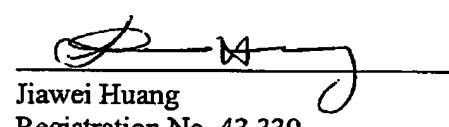
For at least the reasons discussed above, Sako cannot anticipate claims 1-3.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that remaining claims 1 and 2 are not anticipated by Szupillo and Sako. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Respectively submitted

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